

Message Text

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FM AMCONSUL ZAGREB

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3342

MR. GINO PERSURIC

6283 MILL ROAD

BROADVIEW HEIGHTS, OHIO 44141

TEL: 216 526 5681

UNCLAS ZAGREB 0796

CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST (SENATOR ROBERT TAFT JR AND
CONGRESSMAN RONALD M. MOTTLE)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, YO (PERSURIC, PETER)

SUBJECT: W/W PETER PERSURIC

REF: ZAGREB 0769 AND PREVIOUS

1. POST APPRECIATES DEPARTMENT PASSING CONTENTS MESSAGE TO SENATOR
ROBERT TAFT, JR. AND CONGRESSMAN RONALD M. MOTTLE WHO HAVE
EVINCED STRONG INTEREST IN CASE.

2. ON 19 SEPTEMBER 1975, A CONSULAR OFFICER TRAVELLED TO
KARLOVAC AND DUGA RESA TO VISIT PETER PERSURIC, AND CONSULT
WITH THE INVESTIGATING AUTHORITIES. CONSULAR OFFICER IS
SATISFIED WITH THE WAY YUGOSLAV AUTHORITIES HAVE HANDLED THIS
TRAGEDY AND THE CARE PETER IS GETTING.

3. THE YUGOSLAV INVESTIGATING OFFICER IN DUGA RESA GAVE THE
CONSULAR OFFICER A COMPLETE SUMMARY OF THE CASE AND OF HIS
FINDINGS TO DATE. ALTHOUGH THE INVESTIGATION IS NOT COMPLETE,
PRELIMINARY FINDINGS ARE THAT THE EXPLOSION WAS CAUSED BY AN
ITALIAN HAND GRENADE FROM WORLD WAR II. THE POLICE HAVE
DETERMINED THAT THERE WERE SUCH HAND GRENADES IN THE AREA
THREE YEARS AGO; THE INVESTIGATION IS CONTINUING TO DETERMINE
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HOW THE CHILDREN FOUND THE HAND GRENADE THAT EXPLODED. A

REPORT FROM ORDNANCE EXPERTS CALLED IN FROM ZAGREB ON THIS CASE HAS NOT YET BEEN RECEIVED. THE CONSULAR OFFICER WAS IMPRESSED WITH THE PROFESSIONALISM AND CANDOR OF THE POLICE IN DUGA RESA AND HAS NO REASON TO DOUBT THAT A COMPLETE AND VIGOROUS INVESTIGATION IS BEING CONDUCTED.

4. CONSULAR OFFICER ALSO VISITED PETER PERSURIC AT THE HOSPITAL. HE APPEARED REASONABLY COMFORTABLE. THE CONSULAR OFFICER IS SATISFIED THAT CONDITIONS AND TREATMENT IN THE HOSPITAL ARE ADEQUATE. UNFORTUNATELY, THE CONSULAR OFFICER WAS UNABLE TO TALK PERSONALLY TO THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN BECAUSE SHE WAS INVOLVED IN A SERIES OF OPERATIONS WHILE THE CONSULAR OFFICER WAS AT THE HOSPITAL.

5. WHILE AT THE HOSPITAL, THE OFFICER MET GINO PERSURIC'S BROTHER-IN-LAW, A MR. JOVANOVIĆ. MR. JOVANOVIĆ INDICATED THAT HE HAS BEEN SEEING PETER APPROXIMATELY ONCE A WEEK. NOTED THAT THE FIRST TIME HE TRIED TO SEE PETER, HE WAS TURNED BACK AS PETER AT THAT TIME WAS NOT PERMITTED TO RECEIVE VISITORS.

6. WE WILL INFORM YOU OF ESTIMATE OF HOSPITAL EXPENSES WHEN RECEIVED. AT THAT TIME WE WILL NEED AUTHORIZATION TO EXPEND REMAINING FUNDS FROM YOUR TWO THOUSAND DOLLAR DEPOSIT TO PAY HOSPITAL BILL. ADDITIONAL FUNDS MAY BE REQUIRED.

7. BARRING COMPLICATIONS, IT IS POSSIBLE RPT POSSIBLE THAT PETER MAY BE ABLE TO RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES AT THE END OF NEXT WEEK. CONSULATE-GENERAL WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO HANDLE ALL ARRANGEMENTS.

8. WE WILL INFORM YOU FURTHER BY TELEGRAM NEXT WEEK CONCERNING PARAS SIX AND SEVEN.KAISER

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